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Elementary Spanish Reader, with Practical Exercises and Conversation, by Aurelio M. Espinosa, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Spanish, Leland Stanford Junior University. Benj. H. Sanborn & Co., 1916. 208 pp. (Text 127 pp.) 90 cents.

Contents: There are twenty selections in the "Elementary Spanish Reader," followed by two pages of music for several of the Coplas Populares of Selection XI. The first three selections, "La Sala de Clase," "La Clase de Español" and "La Lengua Española", were written by the author, and form a basis for class room conversation. At the end of these and the following selections, is placed a rather complete set of questions in Spanish on the text. The author realizes the importance of the beginner preparing the answers to questions that are to be asked in Spanish.

The remaining selections comprise "Coplas Populares y Rimas Infantiles", "Adivinanzas," "Chistes y Anécdotas," folk-tales of New Mexico, Mexico, California and Spain, and poems and tales by Spanish, Venezulean, Cuban, and Nicaraguan authors. The last selection is a little one-act farce, "Sábado sin Sol," by the Spanish dramatists, Joaquín and Serafín Alvarez Quintero.

Maps: The volume contains ten illustrations and excellent maps of South America, the Iberian Peninsula and Mexico, in which only the larger cities and towns are represented. In the Iberian Peninsula, for example, are included only Barcelona, Valencia, Malaga, Seville, Cadiz, Madrid, Oporto and Lisbon; while the map of Mexico contains eleven names and that of South America twenty-five.

Vocabulary and Notes: The notes are placed at the bottom of the page to which they refer, *which is where they belong*. The vocabulary leaves nothing to be desired. All irregular forms are explained and their source shown, while in some cases, entire tenses of verbs, both regular and irregular, are given. For example under *decir* we find the conjugation of the present, the preterite and the future tenses indicative, and these three tenses are repeated under the first person singular of each. This duplication would seem to be unnecessary. The giving of a complete tense of a regular verb may at first seem a waste of space; yet experience shows that one cannot repeat too often the conjugation of verbs. This particular feature proves that the author is writing from the experience of the class room.

The "Elementary Spanish Reader" will be welcomed by teachers of Spanish as an excellent text for the second semester of the first year. Too much praise cannot be given the publishers for the excellent quality of the paper used and the large clear type. The book was intelligently conceived and carefully executed.

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BENJAMIN REIBSTEIN.